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FLOOR DEBATE

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on and, basically, it wasn't because we had this strong need to drink. There's been a lot of talk that these kids...that there's this alcoholism out there. Well, certainly with a small percentage that may be true, but, by and large, you're looking at good people, good 18-year-olds, good 19-year-olds just trying to find something to do. These are not people who are alcoholics that wake up in the morning with the shakes and are looking for their first drink. These are kids that are just looking for something to do. And without the laws on the books, without anything to prevent a kid from having those drinks, it was going to happen and it did happen most every weekend. I believe that with LB 114 in place, with the threat of losing your driver's license, when you're at that point where you're bored on Friday night or Saturday night, you're trying to figure out what to do, alcohol may not come into the equation as often. This isn't going to stop everybody who wants to drink. It's definitely not going to stop the hard cores. But for those average run-of-the-mill kids that are looking for something to do, which I believe is the vast majority of people we're talking about here that are drinking, this bill is going to do the job. This bill is going to do the job. The law does cause people to make changes. When I got down to college in 19...in the fall of '87, the fraternity, my first year there were 15 keg parties. I mean, I can remember just not even believing what I was seeing there. I mean the risk was unreal. DWI laws weren't around. There wasn't...on campus they hadn't taken advantage of a lot of the risk prevention things that they do now. Now, in 2001, the fraternities aren't having parties in their house anymore. Why? Because the law is changed; because they'll pay the price legally if they do. And so the law has caused people to take some of the risk out of their behavior. When they have parties on campus now, as the Pages would tell you if you asked them, there's designated drivers all the time. Why is that? It's because the law has changed to a point where people need to have designated drivers. The DWI laws are too stringent. People aren't willing to go and take that risk. And so I believe LB 114 is one more step along that road where we can make our children safer. I'm not saying they can't have fun. They can still have fun. But what this does, it makes them think twice if alcohol is going to be a part of that fun. I look back on my own behavior and that risk was too much. I mean I made it